

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

The Office Action rejects the pending claims under 35 USC Section 112 stating that the “new limitation three dimensional is not in the part of the specification, critical or essential to the practice of the invention, but included in the claim(s) is not enabled by the disclosure.”

Applicant respectfully disagrees. “Three dimensional” detection of display screens is mentioned explicitly in many places in the specification along with specific methods and apparatus for performing detection and for using the results of three-dimensional detection to generate display information for the detected screens.

“Once three points, such as three corners of a display screen, are known, the three-dimensional position of the screen, along with the screen dimensions, can be determined.” Specification as originally-filed at page 8, lines 2-4. Many examples of ways to perform the three dimensional sensing are described. “For example, a user can indicate three points of a screen’s perimeter by placing an infrared emitter on each of the points.” Many of the methods mentioned in the specification are well-known and do not need to be discussed in further detail to enable one of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the invention.

“Three dimensional sensing can be by any means as is known in the art. For example, laser scanning, coordinate measuring machines, etc. can be used along with triangulation techniques to identify positions. Another approach is to use global positioning system (GPS) sensing. Other alternatives include angulation using phased antenna arrays, imaging using one or multiple cameras and scene analysis, etc.” Specification as originally-filed at page 8, second paragraph.

The next paragraph discusses mechanical sensing. The paragraph after that discusses asking a user to input the positions.

It is difficult to see how the Examiner has arrived at the conclusion that three dimensional sensing and/or use of display screens is not “critical or essential to the practice of the invention”. Figure 1A shows screens to the front, left, right, above and

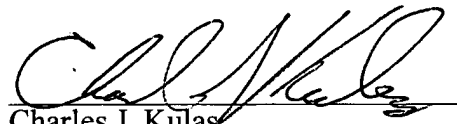
behind the user. Figure 1B shows yet more display screens including "additional screens" that "show the flexibility of the system by permitting floor screen 130, rear screen 132 and wraparound screen 134. Such a configuration may be useful in immersive environments where the effect of the presentation is enhanced by providing images to a user's peripheral vision, or by allowing a user to look around at the different display screens while still presented with relevant, coherent visual information." Obviously these screens are arranged in three dimensional space, as opposed to the basically two dimensional approach of the prior art.

Other parts of the specification describe further aspects of sensing and generating display information for display screens arranged in three dimensions.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-279-5098.

Respectfully submitted,

February 28, 2006
Date


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